

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 00287

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, PARM
SUBJECT: PROTOCOLS TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS:
HUMANITARIAN LAW IN INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT

REF: (A) STATE 003822, (B) USNATO 00102

1. AT JANUARY 10 POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING THERE WAS
GENERAL ACCEPTANCE OF FEBRUARY 16 FOR POLADS MEETING WITH
EXPERTS ON PROTOCOLS TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS. HOWEVER,
BELGIAN REP SAID HE WAS NOT YET ABLE TO ACCEPT FEBRUARY 16,
AND ASKED THAT THIS DATE BE HELD OPEN FOR SILENCE PRO-
CEDURE APPROVAL BY COB JANUARY 13.

2. THE UK REP ASKED WHAT LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION ALLIES
PLAN TO SEND TO MEETING. SEVERAL POLADS REPLIED THEIR
AUTHORITIES PLAN TO SEND HEADS OR DEPUTY HEADS OF FOREIGN
MINISTRY AND DEFENSE MINISTRY LEGAL SECTIONS, AND/OR
OFFICIALS FROM THEIR GENEVA DELEGATIONS. ITALIAN POLAD
SAID HIS AUTHORITIES AGREED WITH UK SUGGESTION (PARA 3
REF B) TO INCLUDE POLITICAL AS WELL AS LEGAL EXPERTS IN
CONSULTATION, AND THAT ITALY MIGHT SEND A POLITICAL
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EXPERT, IN ADDITION TO DEPUTY HEAD OF MFA LEGAL DIVISION.

3. US REP DREW ON GUIDANCE REFTEL CONCERNING FURTHER
CONSULTATIONS AT NATO ON PROTOCOLS. OTHER REPS SAID THIS
QUESTION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN LIGHT OF RESULTS OF
FEBRUARY 16 MEETING. GLITMAN

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